

Senate Resolution 1104

By: Senators Bulloch of the 11th, Hudgens of the 47th, Hawkins of the 49th, Goggans of the 7th, Heath of the 31st and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Commissioner Tommy Irvin for his outstanding service to the
2 State of Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Commissioner Tommy Irvin has long been recognized by the citizens of this
4 state for the vital role that he has played in leadership and his deep personal commitment to
5 Georgia's agriculture; and

6 WHEREAS, appointed by Governor Lester Maddox, he began his service as Georgia's
7 Commissioner of Agriculture in 1969, a position he has been reelected to for ten straight
8 terms, making him the longest serving Commissioner of Agriculture in the United States and
9 the longest serving state-wide elected official in Georgia; and

10 WHEREAS, during his tenure as Commissioner of Agriculture, he has served as an advocate
11 for the agriculture industry in Georgia and improved the lives of countless Georgians through
12 numerous initiatives; and

13 WHEREAS, Commissioner Irvin is nationally recognized as a leader in agricultural relations
14 around the world, leading trips around the globe to procure contracts to sell Georgia
15 agricultural products to other nations; and

16 WHEREAS, Commissioner Irvin's leadership in the field of agriculture has been nationally
17 recognized, as he is the founder and two-term president of the Southern United States Trade
18 Association, he is a founding member of the Southern Association of State Departments of
19 Agriculture, and he stands as the only Georgian to serve as president of the National
20 Association of State Departments of Agriculture; and

21 WHEREAS, his diligence and commitment on behalf of Georgia citizens has been
22 recognized with awards such as the Richard B. Russell Public Service Award and the 2005
23 Jefferson Jackson Day HOPE Award; and

24 WHEREAS, Commissioner Irvin's decades of selfless service to the State of Georgia have
25 made a lasting impression which will be felt for many years to come.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
27 recognize Commissioner Tommy Irvin for his more than five decades of effective, efficient,
28 and selfless public service to the State of Georgia and commend his remarkable contributions
29 to the field of agriculture.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
31 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Commissioner Tommy Irvin.